



Office of The Chief Conservator Of Forests
Junagadh Circle, Sardarbagh Junagadh
Pin.362001 Call:-0285 2636498
Email : junagadhcircle@gmail.com



Letter No .A/Land/684/T-12/153-54/2023-24,

DT. 01/05/2023

To,
The Add.Pri.Chief Conservator of Forests,
Land, Gujarat State,
Gandhinagar.

Subject: Proposal for diversion of 598.2427 ha. Forest land for Methala Bandhara irrigation project near village Methala in Talala Taluka in Bhavnagar District of Gujarat State (Inline proposal No.FP/GJ/IRRUG/44298/2020) reg.

Ref: (1) Your Letter No. FCA/29-C/B/5760-61 Date:27/12/2021
D.C.F.Bhavnagar Letter No
(2) A/JMN/T.11/151-52 Date:07/05/2022
(3) A/JMN/T.11/320 Date:08/06/2022
(4) A/JMN/T.11/173 Date:24/04/2023

It is submitted that in response to your letter vide reference No. (1) the compliance of the queries raised by Govt. of India , Ministry of Environment of Forest Climate change letter No.8-06-2021-FC dated 24/12/2021 is as below:

- (I) As reported by the State Government of 140.5978 ha. Are proposed for CA is encroached by local people and 2.6503 ha area has pond. The area is therefore not free from all encumbrances. The Govt. may therefore provide NFL which is free from all encumbrances.

Compliance: as per DCF Bhavnagar letter vide reference (4), the area proposed for CA had been re-Measured on 22/07/2022, where in the proposed NFL is free from all encumbrances. The DCF Bhavnagar letter and certified copy of map are attached herewith as **Annexure No_A.**

- (II) The site suitability certificate mentioning that the proposed CA area is suitable for plantation and free from all encumbrance shall be submitted along with the detailed CA scheme.

Compliance: The site suitability certificate and detailed CA scheme has been submitted vide **Annexure No. B.**

- (III) CA schemes referring to planting of 200 grass species out of 1111 plants/ha has to be revised. A minimum 1000 plants (tree species) per ha are required to be planted.

Compliance: DCF Bhavnagar vide his letter reference (4) had submitted revised CA scheme as per the query. However, as per the notification No.CG-DL-E-29/06/2022- 36894 published in Gazette of India dated 28/06/2022. The forest conservation rules 2022 section 11(i)(a), there is provision for CA in NFL with compensation for short fall in double degraded forest land. DCF

Bhavanagar vide ref. NO.(4) had submitted the requisite CA scheme in part. The other part of CA scheme will be submitted as soon as possible.

- (IV) Out of the total forest area of 598.2427 ha sought for diversion, approx.. 417 ha forest area was found submerged as per satellite imagery dated 26,09.2018. It is further observed that dam like structure was erected at the river mouth during the year 2018, which seems to have led to this submergence. The State Govt. may therefore re-examine the matter in view of above information.

Compliance: As per the DCF Bhavanagar report vide reference No.(2), the issue of submergence has been re-examined by the local officers and the matter has been explained in detail along with satellite imageries as per attachment. In view of the above the compliance may please be accepted.

- (V) The Cost benefit analysis has not been prepared on the format as prescribed in the guidelines issued by the Ministry.

Compliance: Cost benefit analysis has been prepared on the prescribed format given in guidelines issued by the Ministry Attached here with **Annexure No. C.**

- (VI) The Approved copy of CAT Plan in Accordance with para 9.2 of Comprehensive guidelines dated 28-03-2019 has not been submitted

Compliance: CAT plan is submitted herewith as per **Annexure No. D.**

Encl:- As above in (3) sets



(Dr.K.Ramesh)
Chief Conservator of Forests
Junagadh Circle, Junagadh

✓ Copy to :- Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhavanagar Forest Division for information and to comply urgently as per directions issued vide this office letter no.B/Land/684/T.12/579 Dt.01/05/2023 regarding Compensatory afforestation scheme.